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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.

CD NO.

COUNTRY East Germany/Various

DATE DISTR. 4 August 1953

SUBJECT Activities of the East German Chamber of Foreign
 Trade

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE
ACQUIRED

25X1A

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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10. During the first weeks of April 1953 the East German Chamber of Foreign Trade (Vammer fuer Ausserhandel) (IFA) wrote to the Chambers of Trade in Sofia, Bucharest, Prague, Warsaw and Tirana requesting that the IFA be informed as soon as possible of firms in the respective satellite countries which were known to Egypt. These firms were to be asked to assist in fulfilling the trade agreement made between East Germany and Egypt during the first part of 1953.

At the Moscow Economic Conference in 1952 Max Krochut, of the Comite Francais pour le Developpement du Commerce International (COFRAGI), signed a trade agreement with the East German delegation amounting to 110,000,000. Subsequently, at the 1952 Leipzig Fair, Krochut and Director Faetzold of the Deutsche Warenvertriebsgesellschaft (D.W.) signed a partial agreement (Teilabkommen) to realize part of the original sum. There was no further action on realizing this agreement because of difficulties on the part of the French committee in getting permission from the Ministry of Trade and on the part of East German authorities in delivering certain wares. In April 1953 the KFA was notified that Robert Chamberlain, president of the COFRAGI,¹ had obtained the necessary permission from the Ministry of Trade and that Krochut would come to Berlin on 25 April 1953 to conclude the agreement. All the files were with Kretschmann (and) of the East German Ministry of Foreign and Domestic Trade (MAI), who would turn them over to Faetzold of the D.W. upon Krochut's arrival.

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4. According to an announcement in Tägliche Rundschau of 12 April 1953 the Præsidium of the IFA was constituted on 10 April 1953 consisting of Dr. Gottfried Lessing as President and the following members: Director G. Meyer, Director A. Bloechner, Director K. Apperlein, Chief Editor G. Hinnik, Director H. Schneider and Director A. Iastzold.

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1: [] Comment: Chamberion is not the president of COFRACI,
although he had a part in organizing it.

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